

REMARKS

Claims 2-6 are pending in the present application. By this response, claims 2, 3, 4, and 6 are amended. Care has been exercise to avoid the introduction of new matter or raising issues not previously considered by the examiner.

The Applicant appreciates that the present case is under final rejection, and that the breadth of the previously presented claims necessitates the current rejection based upon US Patent no. 4,821,713 to Bauman. However, since the subject patent was not previously contemplated by the Applicant, the current claim amendments could not be previously submitted to the examiner to avoid the teachings of Bauman.

It is urged that the current amendments be entered in the prosecution record of the subject application since this application is placed in condition for allowance by those claim amendments. Further, it is respectfully submitted that the examiner has had opportunity to consider the claimed embodiment during his evaluation of the parent application.

Claim rejections based upon conventional art

Claims 2-6 stand rejected under 35 USC section 102(b) being anticipated by US Patent no. 4,821,713 to Bauman. The Examiner relies upon column 4, lines 53 through column 5, lines 20, Figure 11 and figure 2 as teaching all of the recited claim features.

Arguments

The rejection based upon conventional art is respectfully traversed. In particular, no combination of conventional art teaches the structural arrangements recited in independent claim 2.

The inventive structures include a cylindrical bellows, as opposed to the “accordion” bellows of the cited Bauman patent. Further, claim 2 recites means for adjusting the longitudinal length of the cylinder in order to control pressure and volume. This is a concept not remotely suggested by an accordion bellows, such as that taught by the Bauman patent.

Accordingly, it is urged that the present claims clearly distinguish over all combinations of the conventional art.

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CONCLUSION

Based upon the aforementioned comments and amendments, it is urged that Claims 2-6 are in condition for allowance, as is the remainder of the subject patent application. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions, comments, or suggestions, or should issues remain, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone for a prompt and satisfactory resolution.

Respectfully submitted,
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